

5



Taamo

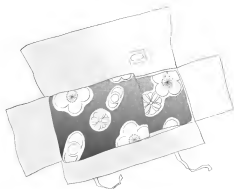
HOUSE of the SUN



HOUSE of the SUN



by Taamo





----- Story 17 -----

A Boy's Feelings

5

----- Story 18 -----

Jealousy

44

----- Story 19 -----

Just Us Two

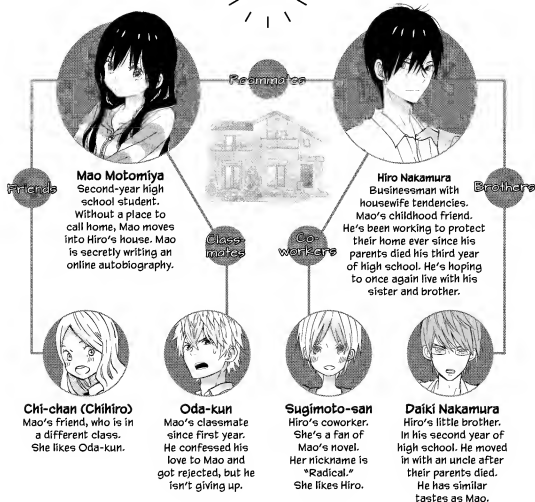
83

----- Story 20 -----

One-way Street

121

CHARACTER



STORY

After her father gets remarried, Mao feels like she no longer has a home and ends up moving in with Hiro, her childhood friend.

Mao falls in love with Hiro, who is kind and takes care of her.

Aiming to become self-reliant, she gets a part-time job with Daiki, who is home for summer break.

Hiro's been acting strange, and so, at the fireworks festival, Mao inadvertently ends up asking him if he likes her!

Volume Five.
I hope you enjoy it.



-Taamo



A Boy's Feelings





トッ
BOOM



トッ
BOOM

トッ
BOOM









*yakisoba

*Jumbo skewers





*Fried noodles



*Approximately \$15.00



Even I'm...

...not sure...

*...that
I'm in
my right
mind.*

It's true.

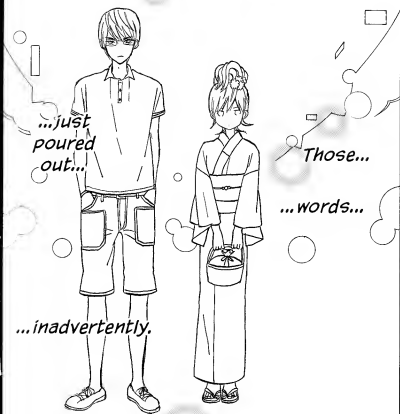
*It's
impossible
right now,
anyway...*

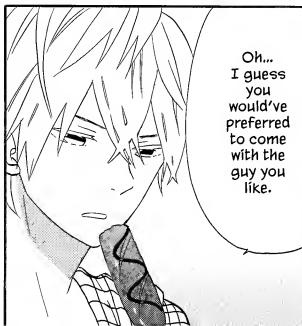
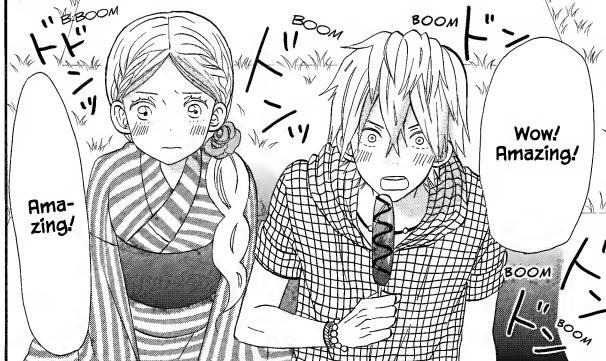
*...just
poured
out...*

Those...

...words...

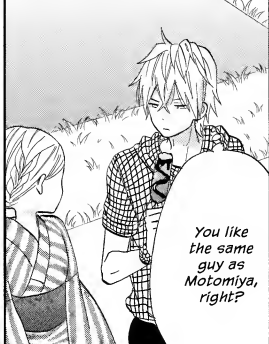
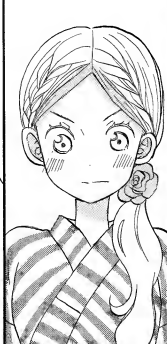
...inadvertently.



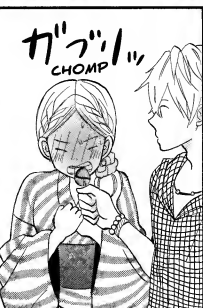




I...
I...



You like
the same
guy as
Motomiya,
right?



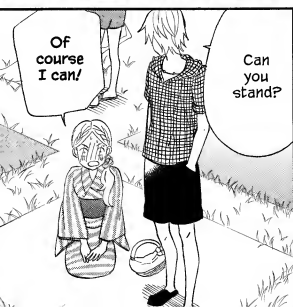
Huh?

Half-
eaten



Well, eat
this, and
cheer up!

It's
delicious.



Of
course
I can!

Can
you
stand?

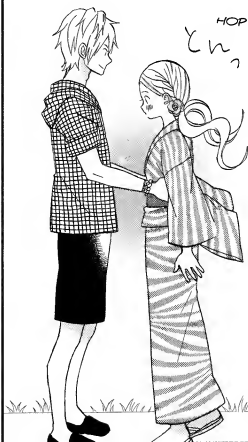


Was that the
end of the
fireworks?
Shall we go?

MUNCH もぐ
MUNCH もぐ

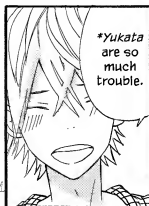
I took
a bite...

And
he's still
eating
it!



Be
straight-
forward!

Come
on!
You
idiot!



*Yukata
are so
much
trouble.



I
can't
stand
up.

*Summer kimono



There are...

...



...so many...

...people here.



...really
troubled,
too...

She
looks...

*But there's only
one person...*



*...I truly want
to be with.*



Even if I end up crying...

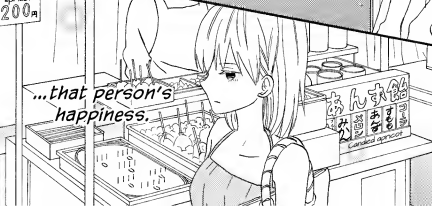
All I wish for is...

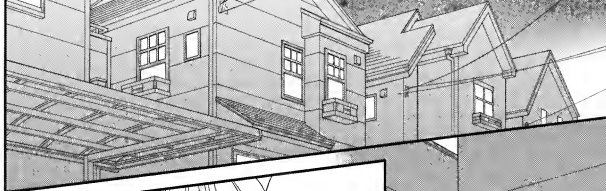
*200 Yen
Approximately ¥2.00

あんず飴
Candied
apricot
200円



*...that person's
happiness.*





Good night.

It's gonna rain tomorrow if you're this nice to me!

Th-

Um...

Uh...

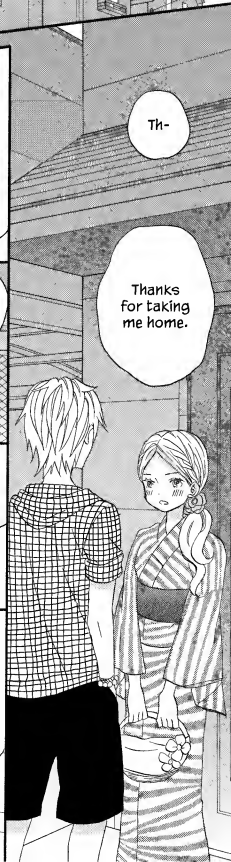
Thanks for taking me home.



Huh?

...but, I...

You may not have really wanted to go with me today...







Waaah!



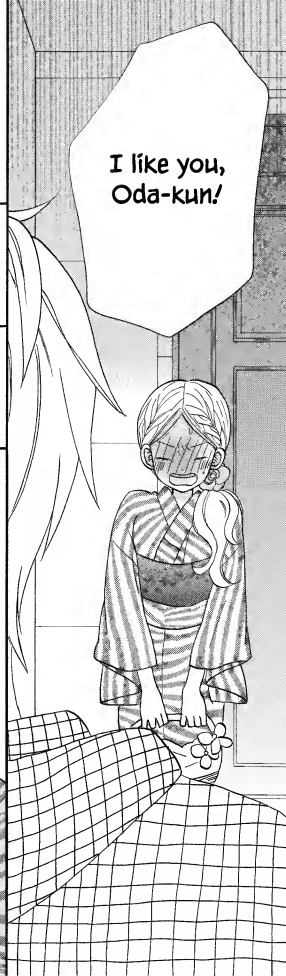
What?



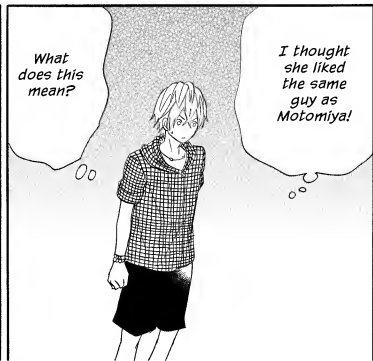
H...
hey.
Are
you
okay?



I like
you.



I like you,
Oda-kun!





I hope we
can all go with
Hina-chan,
too, next year.



Everything
tonight
was a first
for me.

Thank you.



Yeah.



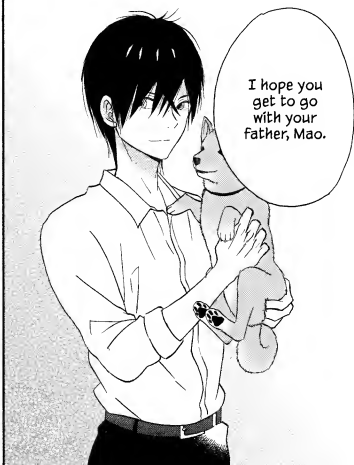
But it's
how I
really
feel.



Mao just
keeps
saying
things
like that,

huh,
Croquette?

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

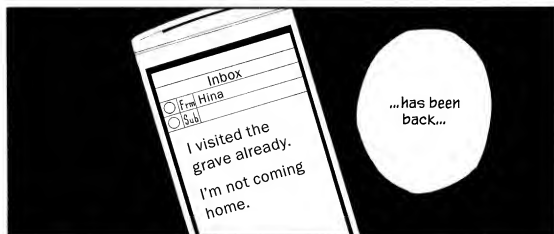
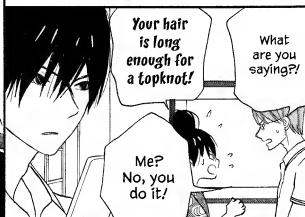


*Bon is a major Buddhist holiday in Japan.



As I
expected...

Hina...



*I won't
move back.*

*I don't want to
move back home.*



Where?

...

The truth
is, we
ran into
Hina.

At the
fireworks
festival.

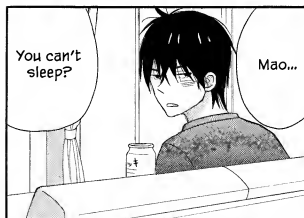
I see.

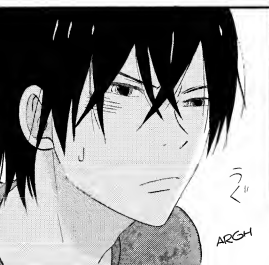
...

Yes.

Is she
doing
well?









...and is too damn stubborn to come home.

She just keeps trying to take everything on herself...



She's choosing to make it harder for herself.



Yes!

That idiot!

She's in pain?



You want her to come back so badly.



Yeah, she's an idiot.





...I've
learned
so many
things.

Family is a
good thing,
after all.

...I
started
living
here...

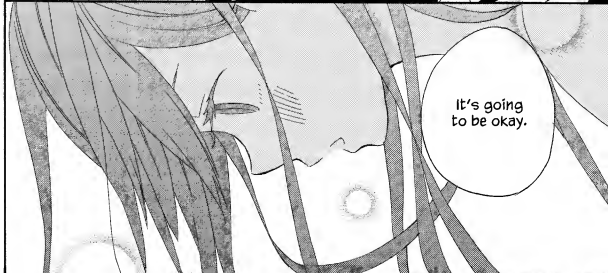
Ever
since...



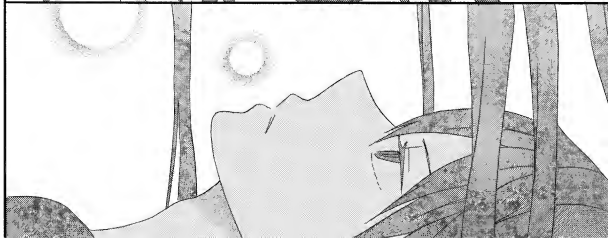
You're
waiting for
Hina-chan.

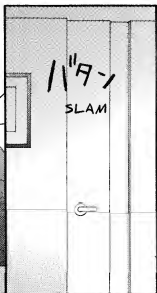
Hiro...

It's all
thanks
to you,
Hiro.



It's going
to be okay.





What?!
You told
Oda-kun you
like him?



So I've
been too
scared
to ask.

I know
that he
likes you...

Yeah...
He hasn't
responded
to me yet,
though.



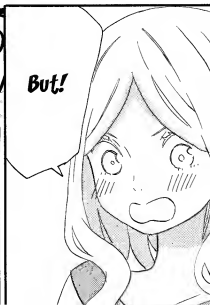
That's why
I told him
in the first
place!

I can't go
on like this!

...



But!

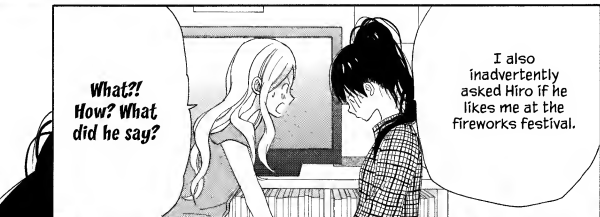




Chi-chan,
you're
amazing.



I'm gonna
do my best
so that he
starts to
like me.



What?!
How? What
did he say?

I also
inadvertently
asked Hiro if he
likes me at the
fireworks festival.



That's why
I asked him
to let me
take it back.

No matter how
he answers me
now, I'm sure he
won't be able to
without sympathy
and other
feelings getting
in the way.

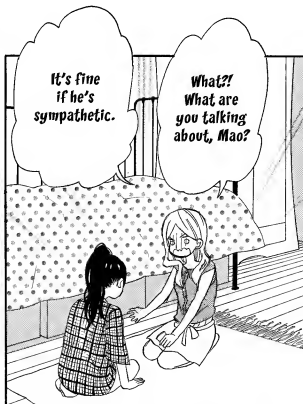


It's
impossible
right now,
anyway.



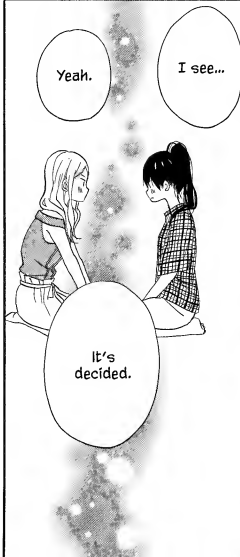
When the person you like likes you back...

...that's a great thing.



It's fine if he's sympathetic.

What?! What are you talking about, Mao?



Yeah.

I see...

It's decided.



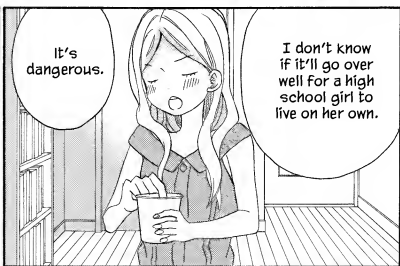
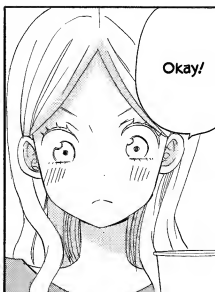
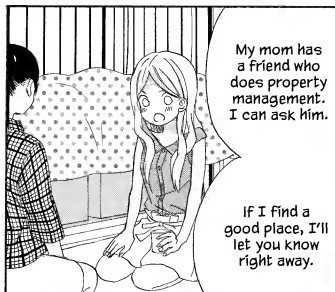
Yes, you do! He definitely likes you! It would be weird if he didn't!

I don't know how he feels yet.



At any rate, I need to at least move out of that house.

I want Hina-chan to move back home.





This way, please.



Thank you for your patronage!



Oh, my mistake!

＜"ちゃあ
MESSY



That's all right

My apologies!

This way please!



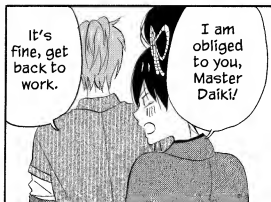
What are you doing? This way!



?

GIGGLE GIGGLE
ニヤニヤ
ニヤニヤ
GIGGLE GIGGLE

He-he-he.
I heard all about it, Mao-chan.



It's fine, get back to work.

I am obliged to you, Master Daiki!



What?

You're dating
Nakamura-
kun, right?

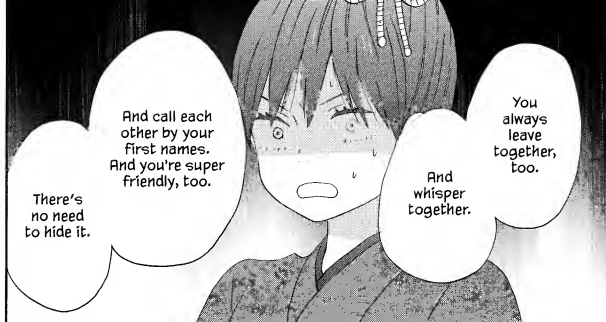


What?



My friend
saw you
two at the
fireworks
festival.

You
mean...
Daiki?
Why would
you...
Are you...
joking?





Daiki,
is there
someone
you like?

...or if you
got a crush
on someone,
that would
turn out bad.

If someone
got a crush
on you...

It was
just a
thought,
but
forget it!

Be quiet/
What
are you
mumbling
about,
anyway?

Oh.

Huh?

...

...

つちあやあや
WAAAAH



Huh?

Are you going to continue working here?



You're in quite a state today.

I just remembered you're going back after summer break.

You'll be quitting this job, so it doesn't matter what people think.



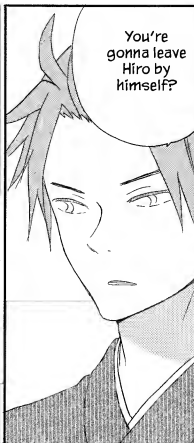
Yeah...

I want to save money and move out as soon as possible.

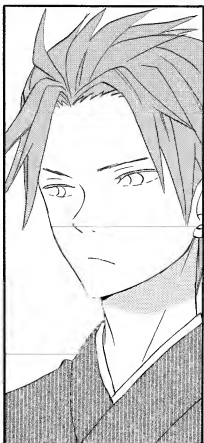


...

Ah...



You're gonna leave Hiro by himself?





Huh?



There's no
need for you
to leave yet.

Also,
I've been
thinking.

Don't be
in such
a rush.



I might...

...move
home soon.

I want to draw
Hiro in a jacket,
so I can't wait for
winter to get here.

I tried drawing him
here. It's fully digital,
but it took me a
while for the draft.

So I wonder if
I should just do
the drafts analog.
I'm so confused!







He really
intends
to come
back.

That
means he
really...

Daiki is
telling other
people that
he's coming
back.

...Will
be
happy.

Hiro...

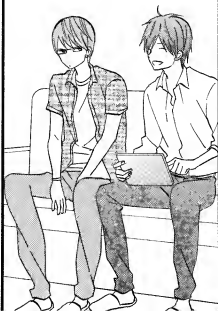
Mao.

I feel like something's
changed inside Daiki
since he's been living
with Hiro this month.

Are you
trying
to hide?

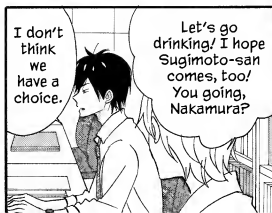
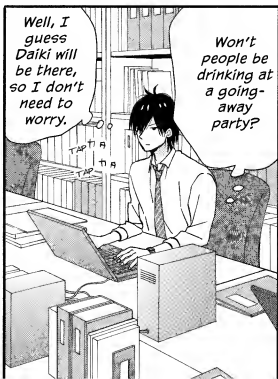
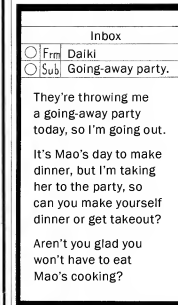
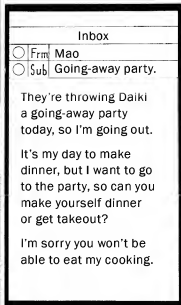
FLINCH
びんっ

Seems that
reservations
have been
made and
everyone is
going out to
eat. You
wanna come,
too?





HOW
CLOSE ARE
THEY?!





I've
got a
party,
too...

Works out
perfectly,
actually.

Why am
I writing
the same
text to
both of
them?

*Shunraku



Don't say
something
ominous!

We'll get
food
poison-
ing

I want
some
horned
turban
liver!

Wow!
This fish
looks
good!



Woah!
He's
getting
her
drunk!



That's
sexual
harass-
ment!

Oh...
Oh...



Oh, did the
manager trap
Sugimoto-
san? Is she
okay?



You're a strong drinker.

Shall I get you another one?



Drink with us, Sugimoto-san!



Not at all.

That doesn't look good...



Hey! Let's drink, Nakamura!



What was that?

Hey, guys, back off.

Nakamura-kun is giving us a hard time.

Don't get her too drunk.



Hey! Don't steal her away!

Okay!



Okay.

Come over here and drink with me.





*Refers to a series of military actions taken by Hashiba Hideyoshi after Oda Nobunaga was forced to kill himself at the hands of Akechi Mitsuhide in 1582.

*Akechi Mitsuhide was a samurai and general during the Sengoku Period in Japan.



*Taiga was historical fiction television drama series in Japan





Are you
out having
fun, too?

Hello.

I called
because
I was
worried.
Why are
you so
agitated?

Daiki
is busy
right
now!

*THE RETIREMENT

It's
super
cute!

Not
bad.

They just
brought
out the
cake!

Why did
you answer
Daiki's
phone?

Tell me
what? You
have to tell
me now!
I want to
know!

But I think
Daiki will
want to tell
you first, so
look forward
to it!

Oh, right.
I have
something
to tell you!



Huh?



Hey,
Mao.

Sugimoto-
san got drunk
and can't walk
properly, so
I'm taking her
home. I'll
be late.



What
did Hiro
say?



He's gonna
be late 'cause
he's taking
a drunk girl
from work
home.

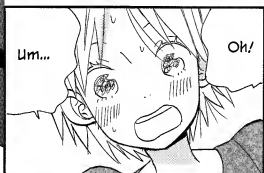
Stop
hitting
the cake.



Uh, okay.









What's with her?

Oh!



Good-bye.

Thank you.



I see.



Where's your door?





*I invited
him in!*



*I
guess...*



*I'm so
nervous, I'm
shaking...*

I...

...you can't?

*...spend more
time alone
with him.*

*I want
to...*

*And not
just that...*

*But I have
to talk to
him about
Kukai-san.*



We'll hang out after he leaves.

Good night.



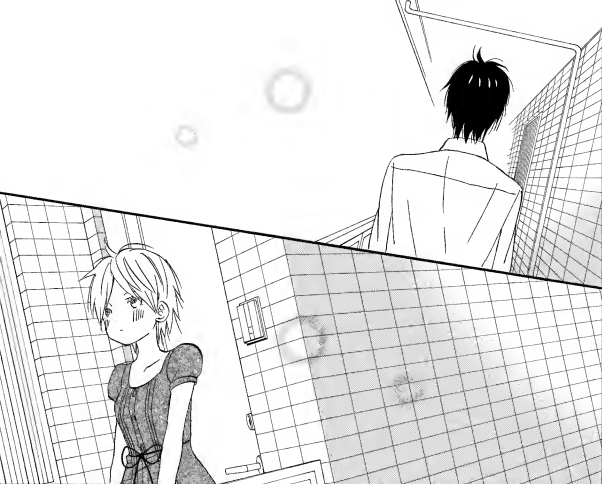
I'm sorry. My brother will be going back to our uncle's place soon.

I want to spend as much time as possible with him until then.



...night.

Good...



*I'd rather never
fall in love.*

*...I
always
thought.*

...what... That's...

*If it
means
getting
hurt...*



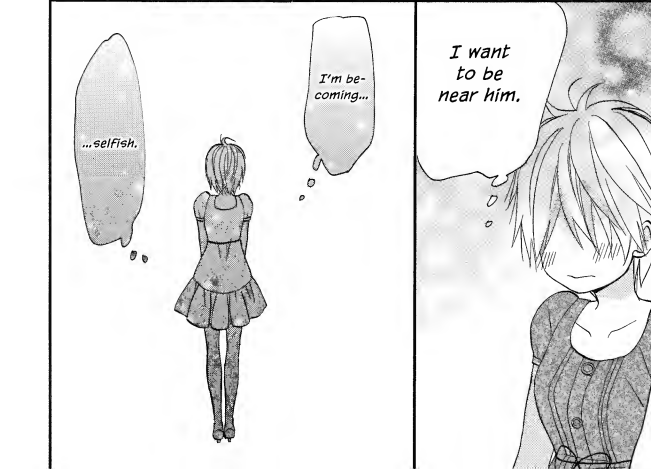


A close-up of a young girl's face. She has short, light-colored hair and is looking down with a sad expression. Her eyes are closed, and there are some dark, smudged marks around them. She has a small, open mouth and a few tears are visible on her cheeks. The background is a soft, hazy grey.

*I want
to talk
with him
more...!*

*But
it's
fine if
I get
hurt.*

*I want
to get
to know
him.*

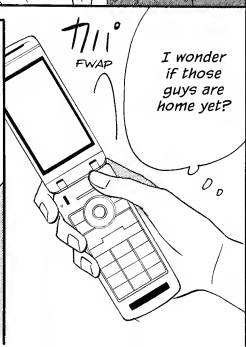


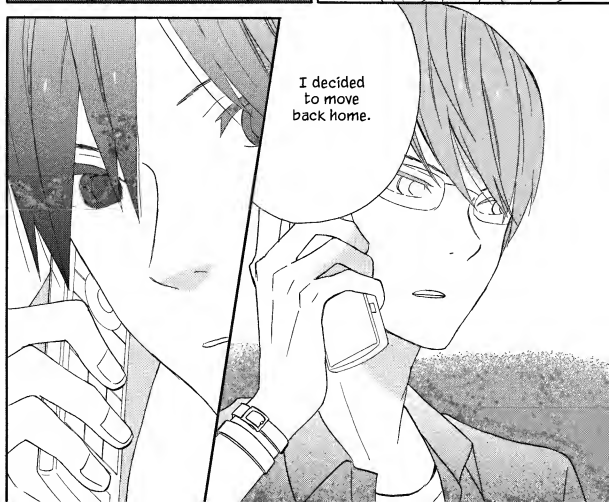
A girl with short, light-colored hair is shown from the back, wearing a dark, short-sleeved dress with a ruffled skirt. She is standing with her back to the viewer, looking away. The background is a soft, hazy grey.

*I want
to be
near him.*

...selfish.

*I'm be-
coming...*





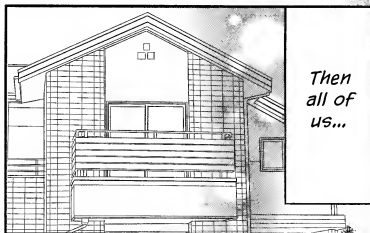




*Thank
you.*

*I'm so
happy.*

But...



*Then
all of
us...*



*...can live
together
again.*

*Even Hina
might change
her mind now.*





We can
make it his
welcome home
party, too.



Was your
coworker
okay?



Yeah?

H...
Hiro.



Thank you,
Mao.



It's
nothing.

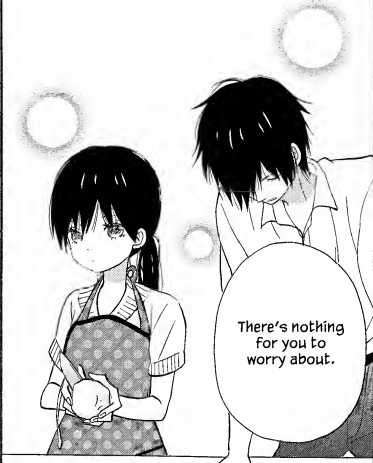


Like,
a lot.

I was
worried.



Yeah, she
sobered
up a little.
She's fine.







I want
you to
stay here.



That's
too much.

You
shouldn't
trust
Chi-chan.

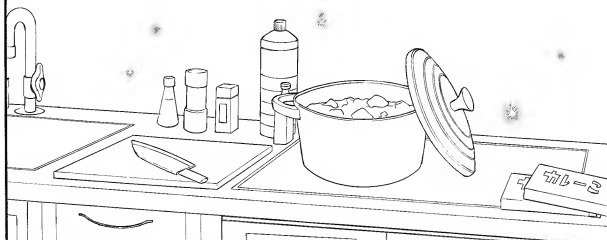
Chi-chan
said to
add in this
much.

...felt happy
because of Hiro.

...who...

...I was the
only one...

I always
thought...



You're heavy!

Why don't you go to sleep?

I'm so sleepy. I can't keep my eyes open.

ゴ" BOKK
/ " /



Yeah... But I'm worried about your cooking.







Whatever,
it's fine.

Like I said on
the phone, I
plan to move
back here.



Hmph.



I was
planning
on talking
to him,
too.

Yeah.



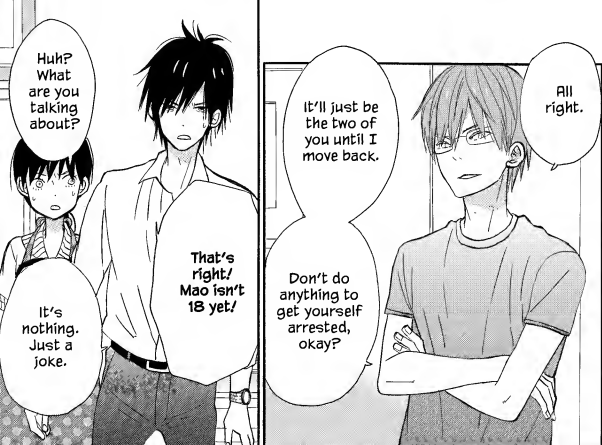
But I
can't do
so right
away.

I have to talk
to our uncle
about it.



Well, I
should go
pay my
respects,
at least.

I'll let you
know when
the time
comes.



*Good-bye and see you soon, Daiki.

大樹さようならそしておかえりなさい

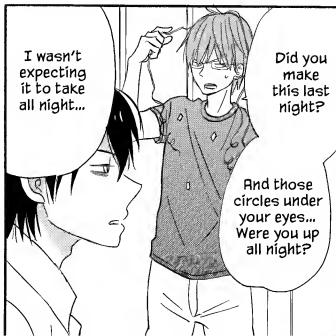


It's a
"good-
bye and
see you
soon"
party!

What
do you
mean?!
It's a
party!



What is
this?



I wasn't
expecting
it to take
all night...

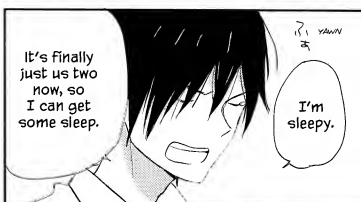
Did you
make
this last
night?

And those
circles under
your eyes...
Were you up
all night?













...US TWO?



JUST...



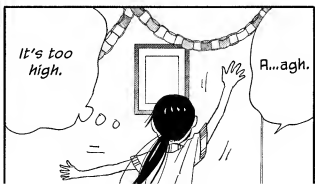
There's
nothing for
me to get
worked up
about...!

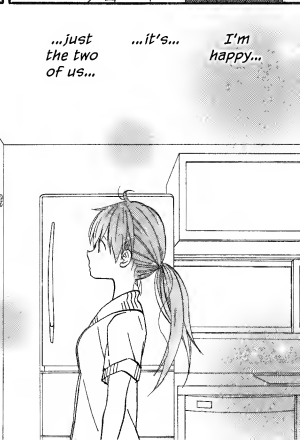
And it was
just the
two of
us when
I first
moved in...!

But we
spent time
with just
the two of
us even
when Daiki
was here...!



Hiro's
acting
normal,
too...





When Daiki told me to behave myself...

And what was that about?

...what did he mean?

... must feel the same way.

Hiro...

No, knowing Daiki it's got to be mean! Was he trying to start a fight? I should've fought back!

Or did he mean not to leave Hiro alone in this house?

Did he mean not to go into a frenzy?

I don't have to be told to behave!

In order for Hiro to move forward, we can't...

Ah! You noticed I wasn't cleaning!

Stop making weird faces.



I'll
keep
this.

And this.



...

...about
Daiki...

...be thinking...



...or how
much we
miss him.



zzz



...





プン POKE
プン POKE
プン POKE



ゴロン
ROLL



It's no use...

...I guess.

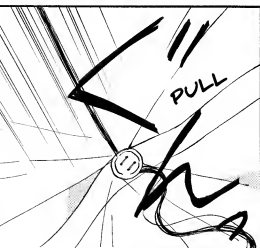


パタパタ
STROKE
STROKE



BA-DUMP
ドキドキ
BA-DUMP

He's
not
waking
up.



Is she
trying to
undress
me? Should
I wake up?

No... It's
Mao, so she
must be up
to no good.

Wh...

What is
Mao doing?

You're
heavy...

Hey...!
Do you
know how
hard this
is for
me...?

My
hair!

Don't
move,
you
idiot!

Clear
your
mind, me!
Reason...

Reason!

Got it!
I did it!
I got it!

I see...
The
heavens
must be
trying to
test my
reason
right now.





Sor...

Sorry...



It...

It's okay,
so just
hurry up
and get off
of me...

BA-
DUMP
F#

F#
BA-
DUMP

F#
BA-
DUMP
F#

BA-
DUMP



Reason!

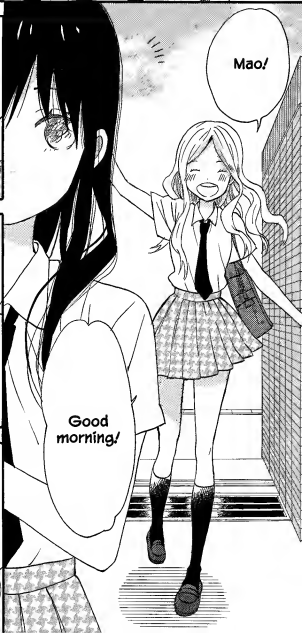
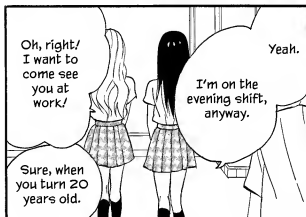
F#
BA-
DUMP
BA-
DUMP
F#

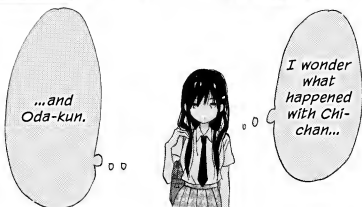
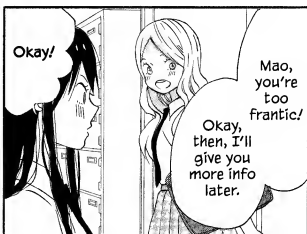
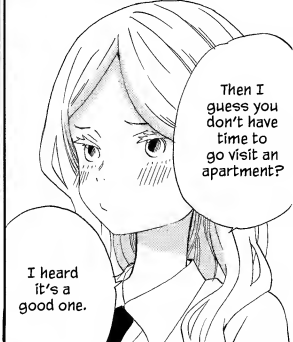


Okay.



*approx. 98 cents
*approx. \$1.28







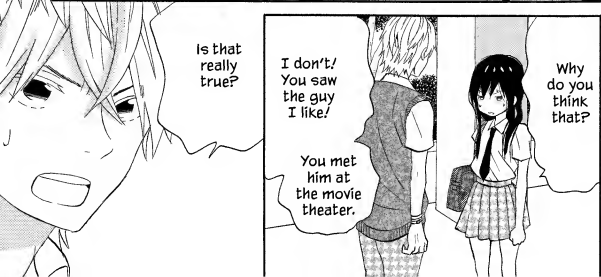


...like me,
after all?

So, you do...



What?

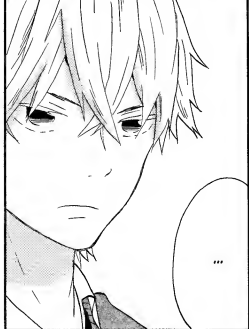


Is that
really
true?

I don't!
You saw
the guy
I like!

You met
him at
the movie
theater.

Why
do you
think
that?



Why
would I
lie about
that?



Hey!

Wh...
what?



...I
haven't
accepted
it yet!

Well,
at any
rate...



What?!
What about
Chi-chan?



See
you in
class!





Or I
can't get
over him!

If only
he'd hurry
up and
reject me!

I knew
what I was
getting
into.

Even though
I knew he liked
you, I told
him how felt
about him.

It would hurt
more not to
say anything.



Oh,
that's
the
property
manager.

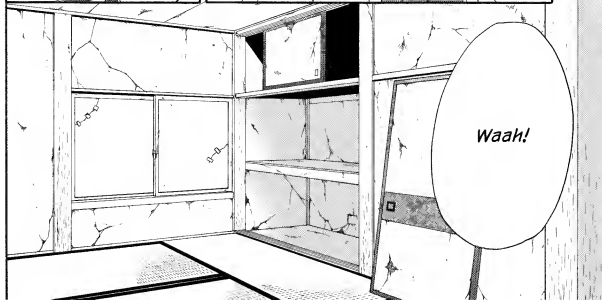
Hello!



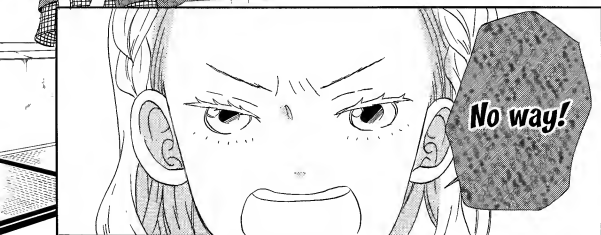
Don't say
it, too.

Huh?
Why not?

Oda-kun
really is
an idiot...



Waah!





Rent is
¥100,000
yen.

*Approx. ¥1,000.00



A
warrior..

It feels
haunted.

Like
a dead
warrior
is about
to appear.



Yeah...



Mmm...
Guess
that's about
how much
you'll have
to spend.



Let's be
patient
and keep
looking.

I'm the
one who
found
the place,
after all.

What
would
I do if
something
happened
to you?

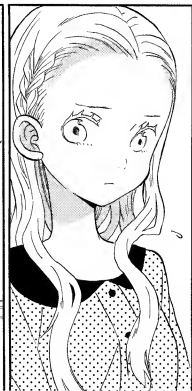
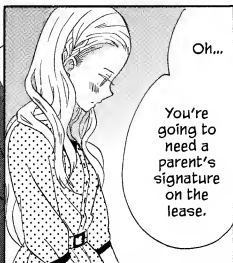
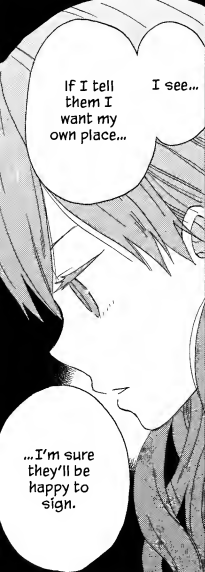


Of course
you
can live
anywhere.

It's fine
if it's
dirty, but
not if it's
dangerous!

It's fine,
Chi-chan.

After
seeing that
place today,
I can live
anywhere.



You two are
like romantic
newlyweds.



You're
buying
groceries
together?

Wh-wh-
wh-what
did you
say?
Chihiro!

I wonder if
you'll be telling
me you kissed
or that you went
all the way soon!
You're so lucky!

No need
to make
excuses.

How
nice... I
want to
do some-
thing
romantic,
too.

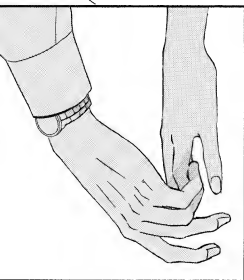
There's a
limit of
two per
person!

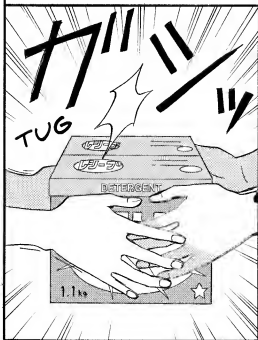
Were
you
waiting
long?

I...I'm
sorry.

Uh... You
look really
angry...

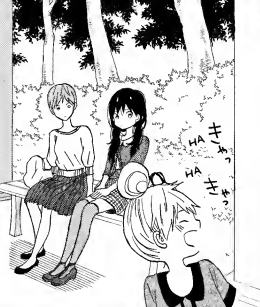
PISSED











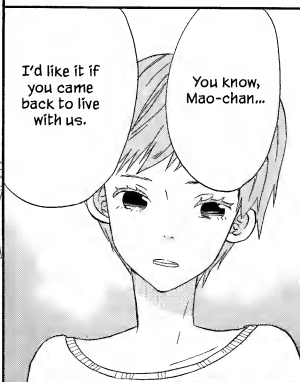


Let's become
a real family.

I mean, with
your dad, too,
of course.



I'm
glad I
finally
got to
talk to
you.



I'd like it if
you came
back to live
with us.

You know,
Mao-chan...



But your
dad and I
want to work
on things
with you.

Now...
Yeah...
You're
right.

I think I
didn't have
the courage.



Why...

...are you
just saying
this now?

However,
I've decided
to get a place
of my own.

Thank you
for your
concern.

I'll probably
call you about
that soon.



Mao!

Mao-
chan!

Excuse me.



I intend to
have Mao
return home.

I'll stop by
for an official
visit soon.

As
embarrassing
as this is
for us, please
take care
of Mao.

Nakamura-san,
my apologies.
Thank you.

Hey!
Hey! Can
you do
anything
else?

I'm sorry
it's taken
so long
for us to
meet.

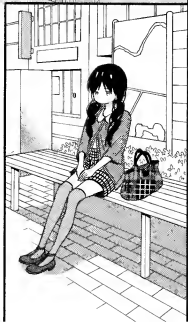
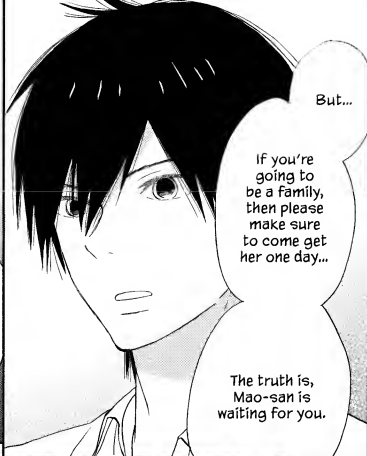
I am Mao's
stepmom.

Don't worry
about Mao
staying with
me. She's a
great help
to have
around.

It's natural
that you
would feel
that way.

Huh?

I'm sorry.
That was
rude. I wasn't
expecting
you to be
such a decent
person.





I've been at
your place
for so long,
I forgot.

I...

Hiro...



...with
my dad,
his wife,
and her
daughter.

...not being
able to
connect...

It hurts...



Mao,
you're
doing
the best
you can.



But, in
the end,
I'm just
hiding
out at
your
place!

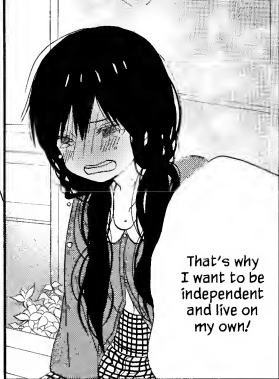


All I
do is run
away.

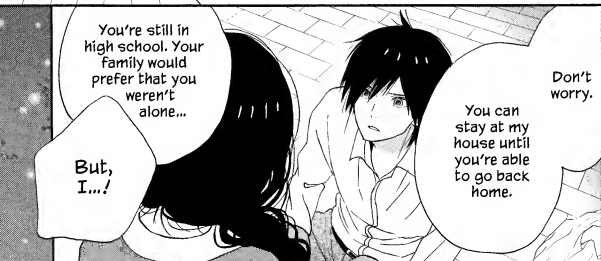
Just like
right now.



You'd still be
running away
from your
family, right?



That's why
I want to be
independent
and live on
my own!



You're still in
high school. Your
family would
prefer that you
weren't
alone...

But,
I...!

Don't
worry.

You can
stay at my
house until
you're able
to go back
home.



When Daiki
comes back,
I'll leave the
house...

I don't
want you
to take
pity on me
anymore!

I don't
want
to be a
burden
on you.



I want to
move past
that...

...and have
you...

...really
see me...

And I
want you
to be
happy!



No matter
what I say
now, she
won't listen.



...

You know,
I...!

Mao!



I told you
not buy
too much
food. ...



I
told
you...

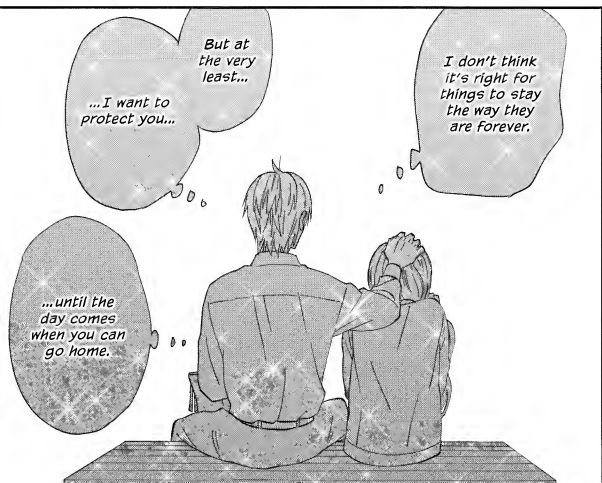


Let's
go
home.

Don't
take a
fighting
stance.
Idiot.

I bought a
ton, so let's
make huge
hamburg
steak.

Ground
pork and
beef was
on sale.



But at
the very
least...

...I want to
protect you...

I don't think
it's right for
things to stay
the way they
are forever.

...until the
day comes
when you can
go home.

*But you'll be able
to face yours
again, Mao.*

*...I can
never see my
parents again.*

*No matter how
hard I wish...*

*...who really care
about you, Mao.*



*You have
people...*

*Even if it
takes time...*

*...with your
head held high.*

...some day...

*You'll go
home...*



英Ⅰ

80

- *Classics
- *Physics
- *Japanese History
- *Science
- *Math
- *English



Ah! My eyes are so sore!



You have a thing for sisters, huh?

It's true that I'll be less worried once my brother comes back.



Isn't your sister home alone? Is she okay?



I know.



My eyes are so tired, only Loxonin can help!

We've been working overtime every day! I can't take it!



Oh! You're unusually fired up!



Right?!



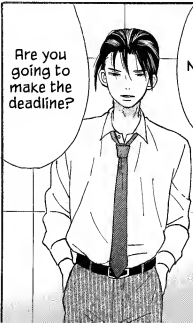
Oh! That's great!



Yes. But he's planning to move back home soon!

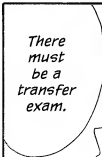


He's living with your uncle?

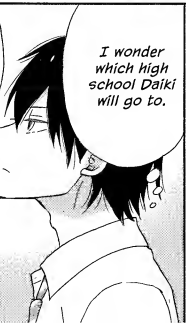


Are you going to make the deadline?

Hey, Nakamura, Fujita.

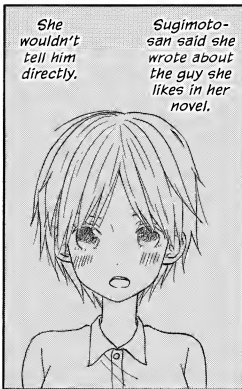
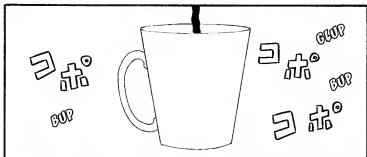
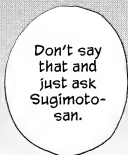
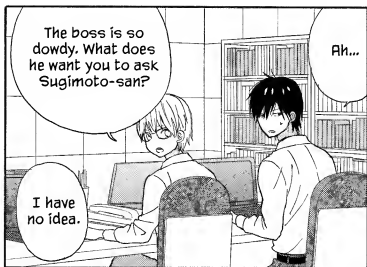


There must be a transfer exam.



I wonder which high school Daiki will go to.







I apologize
for my
behavior at
the drinking
party!

Excuse me!

モ
モ
PANIC

And
the boss
actually
knows it...?



Yes?!

Whaaa!

Oh, yeah, you told me you like *Mitsuhide Akechi.

* Mitsuhide Akechi was a samurai and general who lived during the Sengoku period Of Feudal Japan.

Oh, yeah,
you told
me you like
*Mitsuhide
Akechi.

But you took me home...

I don't remember much about what happened at the bar...

I don't remember much about what happened at the bar...

* Mitsuhide Akechi was a samurai and general who lived during the Sengoku period of Feudal Japan.



Um...

Do you
remember
your
promise?

I like
*Masamune
Date! I guess
he could be
mistaken for
**Yukimura
Sanada, but...

That's
not true!

*Masamune Date was a regional strongman during Japan's Azuchi-Momoyama and early Edo period.
**Yukimura Sanada was a Japanese samurai warrior during the Sengoku period.

That's
not
what I
meant
to say!

...

Um...

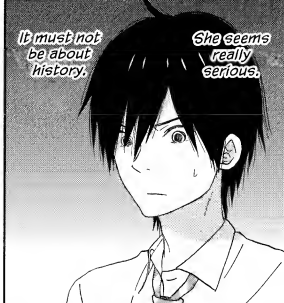
You mean
about
wanting to
talk with
me?

There's something
I need to tell
you, so would you
please have dinner
with me tonight?

Yes.



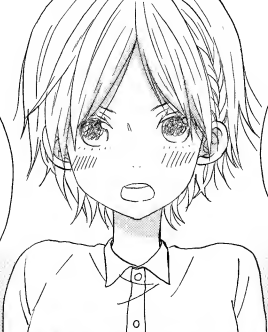
Please!



*It must not
be about
history.*

*She seems
really
serious.*





...about
my novel.

I want
to talk
to you...



Please
don't
think I'm
weird. I
get so
into it
that I
wonder if
I've gone
crazy.

Yes.

I can only
give you
my opinion
as a fan, is
that okay?



Um...

About the novel...



The truth is...



That novel...

I can't tell him!



Oh!

*I'll have to
tell him I
was trying
to help
Kukai-san...*

*If I tell him,
he'll ask why I'm
writing it, and I'll
have to explain
why I lied!*

*And that
I have a
crush on
him...*

*And about
Kukai-san's
feelings for
him, too.*

*I won't
be making
any new
entries.*

...



Oh,
by the
way...

Fujita-san
said your
brother
is moving
back home?



When you
feel like
writing
again,
please
do so.
I'll be
waiting.

I'm
sorry!

I'm
truly
sorry!

*But it's
how I
relax...!*



Oh...

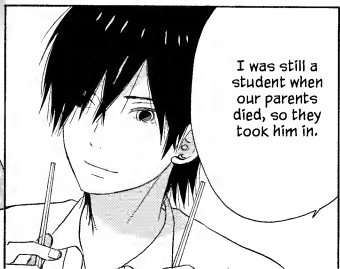
...So
that's
what
happened.

Sorry for
asking a
strange
question.

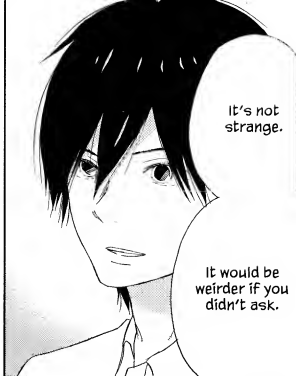


Why does
he live
with
your uncle?

Yes,
that's
correct.



I was still a
student when
our parents
died, so they
took him in.



Kukai-san said that he rejected her.

Can there really be nothing going on?

Does that mean he lives alone with Kukai-san?

She's still in high school, so he can't look at her like that...



I want to ask him.

I want to ask him.

...how the two of them ended up living together.

I want to ask him...

Mushrooms and garlic...

My sister would love this.

I'll try making it sometime.

It really is.

This is delicious.

?

Excuse me!

The sister you're living with is Mao-san, right?

SNORT

COUGH

ゴ
ホッ

Yes... But
she never told
me the reason,
so I wanted
to know...

A...are
you
okay?

ゴ
ホッ
COUGH

ゴ
ホッ
COUGH

ゴ
ホッ
COUGH

ゴ
ホッ
COUGH

ゴ
ホッ
COUGH

Mao
told
you
about
it?

I'm
sorry.

ゴ
ホッ
COUGH

Sib...
lings...

...

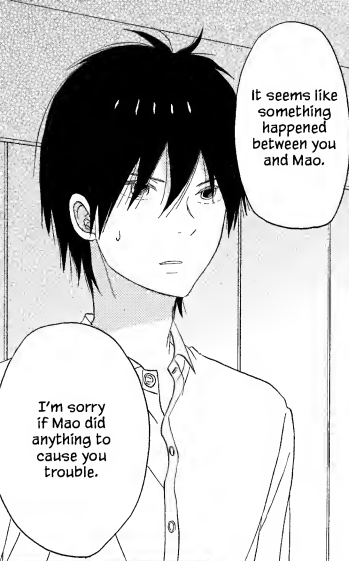
We're
childhood
friends,
so it feels
like we're
siblings,
and it kind
of led to
this.

It's
complicated.

Siblings!
I get it!

I'm
sorry
for
asking.

People are
sure to
misunderstand,
so can you
keep it a secret
at work?



No way...

...apolo-
gizing...

I feel...

...SO...

...for
Kukai-
san?

...jealous.



I'm
home!

Yes!

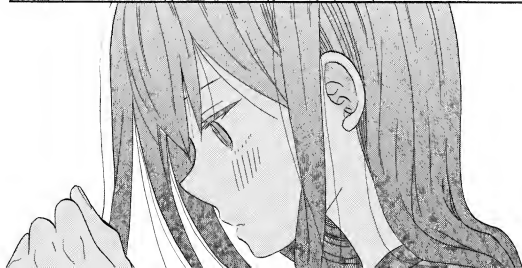
I'm not
in grade
school,
so don't
worry
about
me all
the time!

Did you
eat a proper
dinner,
Mao?

It was good.
I think you
would've liked
the food, so
I'm gonna
try making it
for you next
time.

How was
dinner?

Welcome
back.





So he was
alone with
Radical-san
again, huh?

Hmph.



Oh!
Chihiro!

Yeah,
but...



Your lunch
looks so
good today
-Are those
mushrooms?



Mao!
Don't
put up a
strong
front!

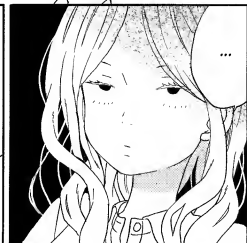
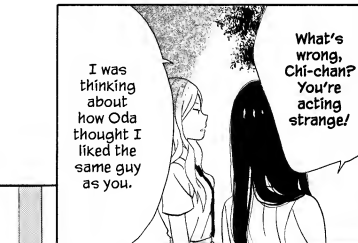
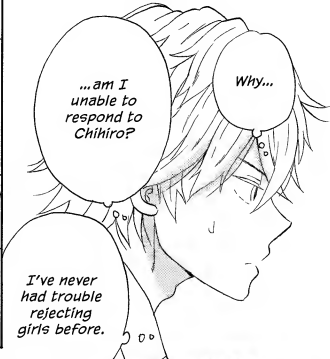
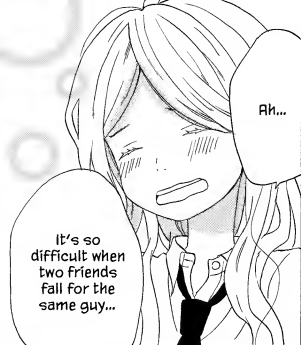
Why
am I
sneaking
by?



If Hiro
ends up
falling for
Radical-
san...

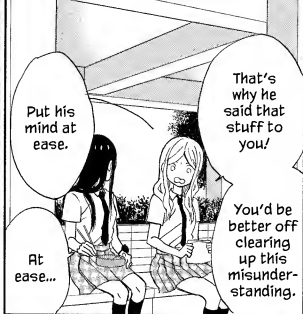
She's a
nice person
and would
make him
happy.

...it can't
be helped.





Chi-
chan.

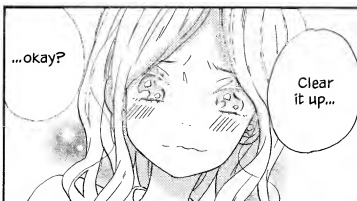


Put his
mind at
ease.

That's
why he
said that
stuff to
you!

You'd be
better off
clearing
up this
misunder-
standing.

At
ease...



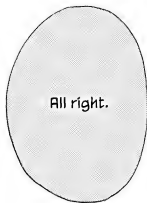
...okay?

Clear
it up...



I don't
want to
see him
get hurt.

I know how it
feels to have
someone not
return your
feelings.



All right.



I heard everything.



Oda-kun!



How could you spy on us?!



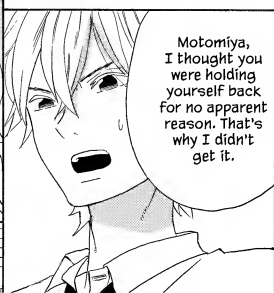
I just overheard it!



Chi-chan...

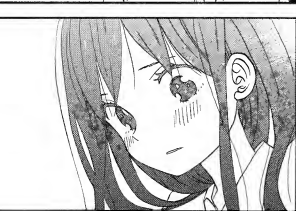
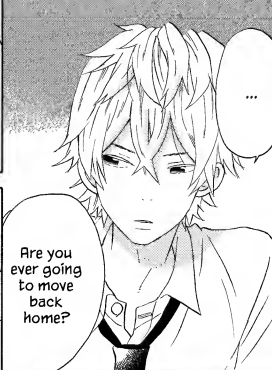
I...I'll be going now.

...



Motomiya, I thought you were holding yourself back for no apparent reason. That's why I didn't get it.







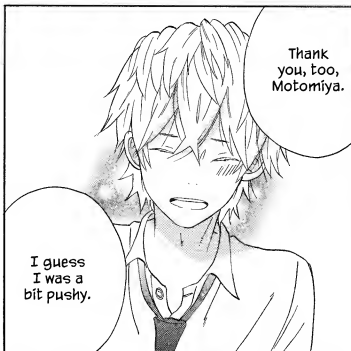
...



Yeah.

I'm
sorry
if I'm
wrong.

I think
that's
what liking
someone is
all about.



Thank
you, too,
Motomiya.

I guess
I was a
bit pushy.



SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

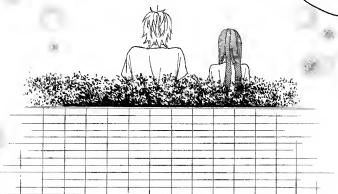
I'm sorry.



...because
you were so
straight-
forward...

It's thanks
to you,
Oda-kun...

...that
I'm able
to give
it my all.



ざわ
RUSTLE

ざわ
RUSTLE





Chihiro
...

...you're
there, right?



I'm sorry,
Chihiro.

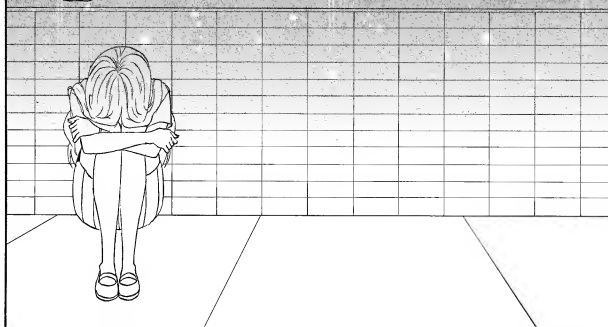
...



I'm
sorry.

I can't
think about
anything
right now.

I'm
sorry.





If...

Even if...

*...I
wouldn't
be able to
stop her
tears.*

*...I were
to hug
her...*

*For
example...*

*...turned
him
down...*

*If Hiro were
to have a
crush on
someone...*

*...and
that
person...*

*...what
would
I say?*

DING

+

DONG

U

>

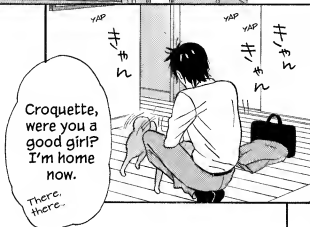
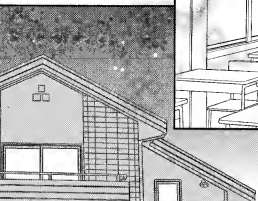
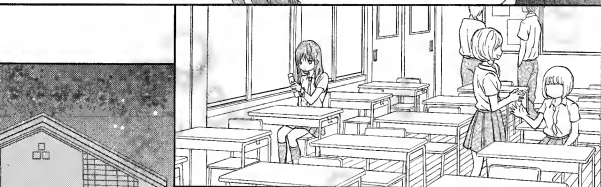
*In my
case...*

*...I
would...*



*...be able
to act like
Chi-chan.*

...never...







I see. Is that what's got you in this mood?

You gave Oda-kun closure.

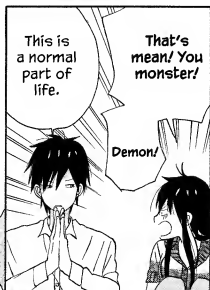


...he's been telling me that he likes me.

Today, I finally turned him down.



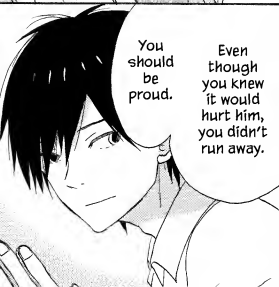
You responded honestly to Oda-kun's feelings, right?



This is a normal part of life.

That's mean! You monster!

Demon!



You should be proud.

Even though you knew it would hurt him, you didn't run away.

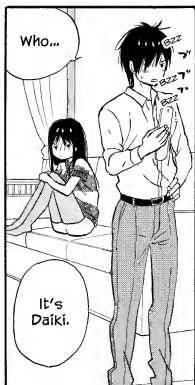






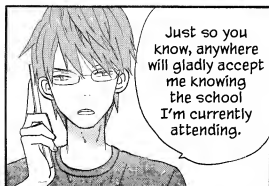


Híro?

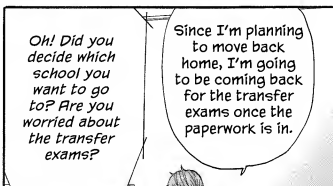


Who...

It's
Daiki.



Just so you
know, anywhere
will gladly accept
me knowing
the school
I'm currently
attending.



Oh! Did you
decide which
school you
want to go
to? Are you
worried about
the transfer
exams?

Since I'm planning
to move back
home, I'm going
to be coming back
for the transfer
exams once the
paperwork is in.

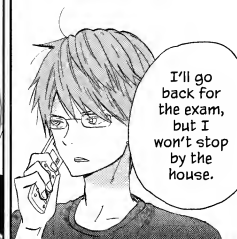


Contact
me when
you know
the exact
date.

*Haughty
as usual.*

Is
that
so...?

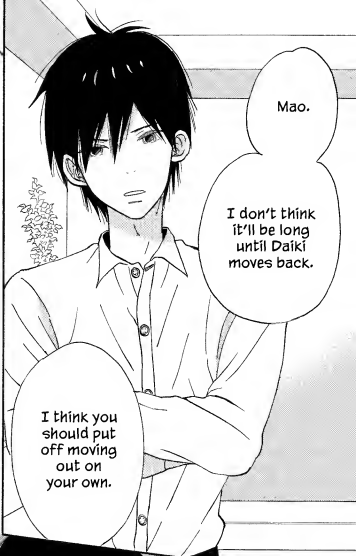






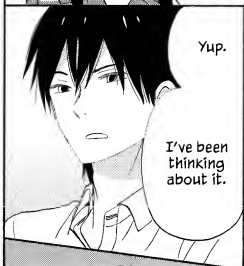
...

That again.



Mao.

I don't think it'll be long until Daiki moves back.



Yup.

I've been thinking about it.



I think you should put off moving out on your own.

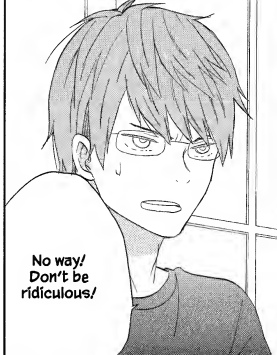
And include your mom, too.



I think you should try talking with your parents again.







To be continued...



I can't
go to the
fireworks
festival.

▲ EXTRA CHAPTER ▲ Fireworks and Boys



Don't
call me
Magyo!

I see...

Magyo, what
do you do
when you're
all alone at
home?

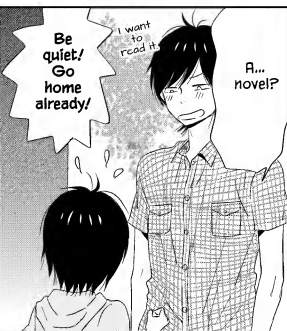
Isn't
that
your
name?

No
way!



I have to
be home
when
it gets
dark out.

My parents
are coming
home late
tonight.
I have to
watch the
house.



Be
quiet!
Go
home
already!

I want
to
read it.

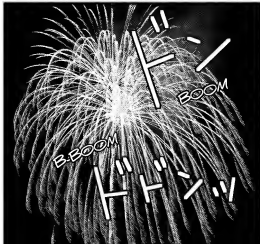
A...
novel?

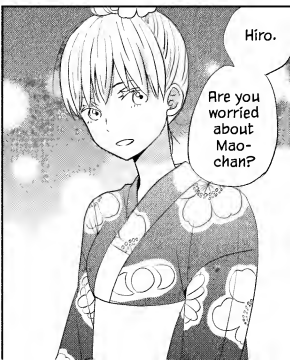


I study
and read.

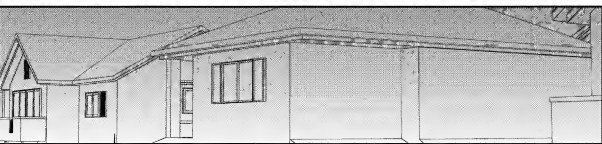
Also, I'm
writing a
novel.

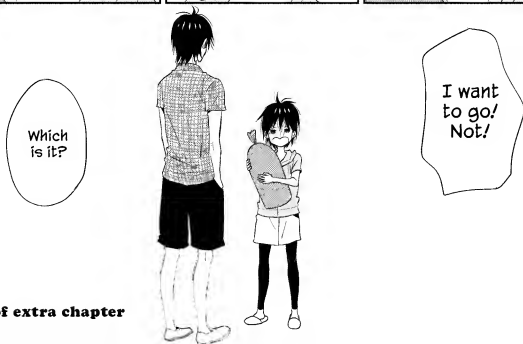
HMPH
7m
I'm
smart.











End of extra chapter

Daiki finally comes home.



*"I want
all of us
to laugh
together
again."*

I'm
coming
home.



Is Hiro getting what he wished for...?

*Hina
ends
up...*



However...

Now, if
only Hina
would
come
home...

Right?



At the very
least, I have
to get out of
that house.

I want
Hina-chan
to come
home.



*What about
Mao, who
plans to move
out on her own
after Daiki's
return?!*

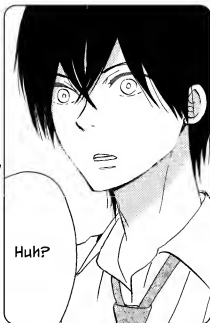
*What
will he
do?*

So, Daiki,
is there a
girl you
like?

*As for
Daiki,
who's
on
every-
one's
mind...*



*How will
Hiro
respond?!*



Huh?

*Sugimoto-
san is
moving
forward
more
seriously...*

You won't be able to put down Volume Six!

HOUSE^{of} the SUN 6



I'm the
protagonist.
Not bad.

House of the Sun 5

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